

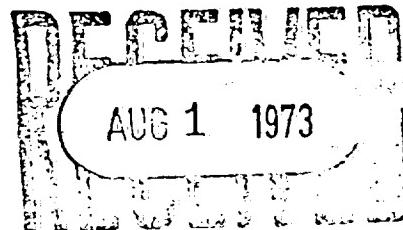


Virginia Commonwealth University

Medical College of Virginia

July 27, 1973

Dr. Robert C. Hockett
Research Director
The Council for Tobacco Research
633 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10017



Dear Bob:

I enclose a renewal application for grant no. 869, which became effective October 1, 1972 and runs through September 30, 1973. Also enclosed is a progress report (30 copies), meeting abstracts, and manuscripts in press or partially completed.

In bringing all of this material together I have tried to be fully responsive to your letter of July 3, 1973, which points out specific targets deemed important by the Council. I hope that you will find, as indicated in my letter of July 10, 1973 that we have been hitting at these targets throughout the period of the grant. And, we hope to continue with vigor.

You noted in your letter the rather general title of the grant. I have not changed the title, but will be glad to do so. I think the word *allied*, which appears in the title, may be restrictive, although perhaps not completely definitive.

In your letter you raised the important "key" question about the extent to which metabolites of nicotine may be responsible for physiological and pharmacological effects that have been attributed heretofore to nicotine itself. This has been discussed at various points in the renewal application and the report. I hope that there has been a satisfactory handling of this most important topic.

Mr. Hoyt's letter of October 18, 1972 stated that the Board had recommended a renewal of the grant for the year past September 30, 1973 (with prior consideration in competition for available funds) at the level of \$60,000. In completing the application for renewal, I followed the original proposal figure of \$74,184 for the second year. This has been done with the hope that additional funding may be possible.

Another consideration is that there is a hope that the present well-trained staff will remain and not try to find other work towards the end of 1973-1974, feeling that funds will be no longer available. Perhaps some indication, if this request is in order, of prior consideration for

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1974-1975 would be helpful -- assuming the Board is willing to take this matter under consideration at the present time.

The present staff remains intact here, except for one of our graduate students who was doing good work, but felt unhappy in the general environment of Richmond. Prior to leaving, he was working with nicotine and its metabolites on aortic strips and intestinal segments. One of our brominated derivatives of nicotine, in his preliminary studies, appeared to have a strong blocking effect on nicotine. We have not repeated the work, but mention it because it bears on the last paragraph of your letter of July 3, 1973, in which interest is expressed in specific and selective antagonists.

If there are any questions in connection with the enclosures, please do let me know.

With all good wishes to you and your colleagues,

Sincerely,

Herb. Jr.

Herbert McKennis, Jr.

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P.S. The enclosed renewal application does not bear the signature of an authorized official of the University. As soon as the official signed copy is received I will send it to you.

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